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Arizona Corporation Commission

RIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF A REGIONAL)
SOLUTION FOR LONG-TERM LOCAL)
NUMBER PORTABILITY.)

DOCKET NO. U-0000-97-069

**JOINT PETITION FOR LOCAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER
PARTICIPATION IN THE WESTERN REGION TELEPHONE NUMBER
PORTABILITY, LLC**

1. THE UNDERSIGNED SERVICE PROVIDERS petition the Commission to encourage any of the undersigned to join with the industry in the Western Region Telephone Number Portability, LLC (LLC).

2. The LLC has developed and has distributed a Request for Proposal (RFP) seeking a vendor for the long term regional number portability administration center. The LLC will evaluate the responses to the RFP and will select a vendor. Subsequently, the LLC may negotiate and enter into a contract for provisioning said services with the selected vendor.

3. Approving this stipulation will not obligate the State of Arizona to ultimately engage the services of the selected vendor and the state reserves the right to subsequently adopt the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) North American Numbering Council (NANC) solution as authorized in the FCC's order.¹

Background

4. On February 8, 1996, President Clinton signed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("1996 Act") into law. The 1996 Act provided for the framework within

¹ See FCC Decision 96-286 in CC Docket No.95-116, First Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. In the Matter of Telephone Number Portability.

1 which competition in the local telecommunications market could begin. Within the 1996
2 Act, all local telecommunications carriers are required "to provide, to the extent
3 technically feasible, number portability in accordance with requirements prescribed by the
4 Commission." (Federal Communications Commission or FCC)²

5 5. On July 2, 1996, the FCC released its rules on local number portability
6 (LNP). Those rules provided for specific methods for implementation for both interim
7 and permanent LNP. The FCC Decision requires that specific implementation schedules
8 be met for the largest 100 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) in the United States.³
9 The FCC also designates the North American Numbering Council (NANC) as the body to
10 determine the independent third party administrator(s) for the database solution to
11 permanent number portability.⁴ The FCC decision also allows for states to accept NANC
12 determination or to petition the FCC for a different administrator.

13 6. The Colorado legislature enacted a statute in May, 1995 that had the same
14 requirements as the federal law relating to LNP.⁵ Subsequent to the enacting of this
15 Colorado statute, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) promulgated rules
16 relating to determination of a permanent solution to LNP for Colorado. These rules
17 formed an LNP Task Force with the task of determining the appropriate long term
18 database solution to LNP. The Colorado LNP Task Force presented a report to the
19 Commission in March, 1996 recommending the Location Routing Number (LRN)
20 architecture as the appropriate solution for Colorado. The Colorado PUC issued Decision
21 No. C96-568 in Docket No. 96A-196T, May 31, 1996, accepting this recommendation of
22 the Task Force.

23 7. Both prior and subsequent to the FCC Decision, the Colorado LNP Task
24 Force has endeavored to work in cooperation with other state jurisdictions in an attempt
25 to reach national uniformity in network reliability and database architecture. It is
26

27 ² See 1996 Act at 251(b)(2).

28 ³ *Id.* at ¶ 3.

⁴ *Id.* at ¶ 5.

⁵ H.B. 95-1335, enacted May, 1995, codified in § 40-15-501, *et seq.*, C.R.S.

1 especially important that the state jurisdictions in which U S WEST provides service
2 cooperate to provide a common solution if possible. It is also important that any system
3 designed for the U S WEST region work in tandem with systems that may be developed
4 for other regions. However, it is apparent that the amount of work required to have each
5 state jurisdiction develop all of the technical background necessary to make an
6 independent decision would not allow for a timely implementation of LNP in order to
7 meet the FCC's proposed implementation schedule. Several states have elected to be
8 included in all recent efforts in Colorado.

9 8. The FCC Decision designates the authority to NANC for the determination
10 of the independent third party administrator(s) for permanent LNP. The NANC is
11 comprised of various industry representatives (not including U S WEST). The NANC met
12 for the first time on October 1, 1996. The FCC has given a seven month time frame after
13 its first meeting for the NANC to complete its task to determine an acceptable
14 administrator.

15 9. The Western Region Telephone Number Portability, LLC was officially
16 formed on September 30, 1996. Initial membership is comprised of providers in
17 Colorado and North Dakota. The Colorado LNP Task Force has actively pursued
18 cooperation and inclusion of any other U S WEST states wishing to join the effort in
19 Colorado. The Oregon Commission has recently issued a letter encouraging providers in
20 Oregon to join the LLC.

21 10. The NANC may not have sufficient time or resources to perform the
22 necessary work to determine an independent third party administrator for LNP in order to
23 meet the FCC implementation schedules for the 100 largest MSAs. Completion of such
24 functions by the NANC will likely lead to the acceptance of work already performed in
25 states such as Illinois, Maryland, Colorado, Georgia, New York, and Washington.

26 11. It is in the best interests of all providers that a common solution exist in as
27 many states in the U S WEST region as possible.
28

1 12. In light of current network architectures and LNP requirements, we agree
2 that LRN is the appropriate solution for LNP the network architecture.

3 13. The LLC formed in Colorado is the appropriate industry structure for the
4 providers (both incumbent and new providers) for the selection and ongoing oversight of
5 the contract between the industry and the vendor selected to provide the administration
6 function.

7 14. The RFP prepared by the Colorado LNP Task Force is the appropriate
8 vehicle for the selection of a vendor to manage the Number Portability Administration
9 Center (NPAC) Service Management System (SMS) for Arizona.

10
11 WHEREFORE, THE SIGNATORIES TO THIS PETITION AGREE THAT:

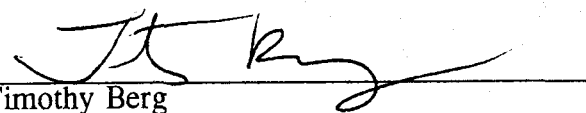
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13 15. The Commission should issue a decision allowing incumbent and potential
14 providers in Arizona to participate in the Western Region Telephone Number Portability,
15 LLC to provide the most cost effective solution to LNP. The Commission decision should
16 be issued as soon as possible to allow for providers not already participating in the LLC
17 as a result of some other state's action to participate in the selection of the vendor prior to
18 December 16, 1996.

19 Dated this ____ day of November, 1996.
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1 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have stipulated to this JOINT
2 PETITION FOR LOCAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER PARTICIPATION IN
3 THE WESTERN REGION TELEPHONE NUMBER PORTABILITY, LLC.
4

5 U S WEST Communications, Inc.

6
7 Dated: 12/18/96

8 By 
9 Timothy Berg

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13 Attorneys for
14 U S WEST Communications, Inc.
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5 MCI Telecommunications, Inc.
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3 THE WESTERN REGION TELEPHONE NUMBER PORTABILITY, LLC.
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5 AT&T
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8 Dated: November 18, 1996

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3 THE WESTERN REGION TELEPHONE NUMBER PORTABILITY, LLC.
4

6 TCG Phoenix

8 Dated: 11/13/96

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